



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



Linda S. Adams  
Agency Secretary

Over 51 Years Serving Coastal Los Angeles and Ventura Counties  
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**TO:** Interested Parties

**FROM:** LB Nye  
Chief, TMDLs and Standards

**DATE:** 30 October 2006

**SUBJECT: VENTURA BEACHES BACTERIA TMDL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) invites stakeholders and interested parties to a public meeting on **Thursday, 16 November, at 1:00 p.m.**, in the Multi-Purpose Room of the **Ventura Government Center Hall of Justice Building, 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California**. The purpose of the meeting is to solicit public participation in the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for bacterial exceedances at the Channel Island Harbor Beaches and Harbor Cove Beach. In 2007, the Regional Board will consider an amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to incorporate this TMDL to reduce bacteria exceedances at Hobie Beach, Kiddie Beach, and Harbor Cove Beach in the Ventura County coastal area.

At the meeting, Regional Board staff will discuss the analysis of bacterial data from the Ventura Beaches, recent actions at the Channel Islands Harbor, the technical approach to developing a plan to restore the Ventura Beaches, and TMDL development schedule. Staff will also solicit input regarding effective public and stakeholder participation in the TMDL process.

Please contact Man Voong at 213-576-6808 ([mvoong@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mvoong@waterboards.ca.gov)) or LB Nye at 213-576-6785 with questions or to be included on the agenda.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region  
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Los Angeles, California 90013

ATTN: Man Voong

**California Environmental Protection Agency**



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Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

### Background

Elevated levels of bacteria in recreational waters have been associated with adverse health effects. Elevated levels of bacteria at the Ventura Beaches have resulted in beach closures in the past and beach postings more recently. The developing TMDL will include a strategy to reducing elevated levels of bacteria resulting in reduced beach closures and postings. The TMDL will be incorporated into the Basin Plan to ensure continued beneficial and recreational uses at the Ventura Beaches. Identified beneficial uses for the Channel Islands Harbor Beaches include contact and non-contact water recreation, fishing, and marine and wildlife habitat, among others. Beneficial uses for Harbor Cove beach include contact and non-contact water recreation, fishing, navigation, and marine and wildlife habitat, industrial service supply, and various others.

The Regional Board is charged with implementing the provisions of both the State of California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act in the Los Angeles Region. Section 303(d)(A)(1) of the Federal Clean Water Act requires the Regional Board to identify water quality limited segments within the Region. This includes water bodies not attaining water quality standards. Once these water bodies are identified, TMDLs are to be established for pollutants causing the impairments.

A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. The acceptable amount of pollutant load is allocated to point, non-point and natural sources. US EPA listed the Channel Islands Beaches and Harbor Cove Beach on its 2002 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies in California for bacteria indicators. A TMDL can be expressed in terms of either mass per time, toxicity, concentration, or other appropriate measures. In the case of bacteria, the TMDL would be expressed as a concentration.

The Regional Board staff will consider all available data and studies related to bacterial loading to the Channel Islands Harbor and Ventura Harbor area and solicit stakeholder involvement in the TMDL development.

For reference, recent Beach Bacterial TMDLs developed by the Regional Board staff, include the Los Angeles Harbor Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (Inner Cabrillo Beach and Main Ship Channel) which is posted on the Regional Board's web page. The web address for Bacterial TMDLs is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/meetings/tmdl/tmdl.html>.